

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Public Reprimand)	
)	
of the Educator's Certificate of)	CONSENT ORDER OF PUBLIC REPRIMAND
)	
C. Blane Ingle)	
)	
Certificate # 171247)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on March 11, 2003. On October 17, 2002, the State Department of Education (Department) sent a notice of the possible suspension or revocation of his South Carolina Educator's Certificate (certificate) to Mr. C. Blane Ingle by certified mail, restricted delivery, and return receipt requested. Mr. Ingle received this notice as evidenced by a signed postal receipt and initially requested a hearing. Subsequent to this request, Mr. Ingle proposed to resolve this matter without a hearing by agreeing to the following terms: (1) a public reprimand will be issued by the State Board, (2) he agrees that this public reprimand will be reported to all school districts in South Carolina with the grounds listed as "unprofessional conduct," and (3) this order will be maintained as a public record in the Office of General Counsel of the Department. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to issue a Consent Order of Public Reprimand on the terms set forth above.

Accepted:

Initial Here

Date:

C. Blane
Ingle
#171247

FINDINGS OF FACT

Mr. Ingle holds a valid South Carolina certificate, and has over two years of teaching experience. During the 2001-2002 school year, Mr. Ingle was a teacher at Hillcrest Middle School in the Greenville Country School District (District). On May 1, 2002, while administering the Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test (PACT), he made mental notes of several of the questions on the math portion. He later reduced the mental notes to writing and discussed them with students in his advanced math class. On May 3, 2002, a parent reported the incident to

school officials. The District contacted the State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) to investigate the allegations. A copy of the final SLED report was shared with the Department and the Thirteenth Circuit Solicitor. The Solicitor decided that criminal intent was not present and did not prosecute Mr. Ingle. He was not disciplined by the District and was re-employed for the 2002-2003 school year. Mr. Ingle stated he might have been over zealous in his efforts to teach his students but that he did not intentionally violate any test security procedures. He has agreed to accept this reprimand on the conditions outlined above.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-150 (1990), S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-160 (1990); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. The Board finds that the preponderance of the evidence presented supports its conclusion that just cause does not exist to suspend or revoke Mr. Ingle's certificate; however, cause does exist for a Public Reprimand of Mr. Ingle's conduct during the PACT testing on May 1, 2002. Accordingly, the Board hereby issues this Consent Order of Public Reprimand as set forth above.

South Carolina State Board of Education

/S/ Greg Killian

Greg Killian
Chair

Columbia, South Carolina
March 11, 2003

I, C. Blane Ingle, SC Teaching Certificate # 171247, do hereby agree to this Order of Public Reprimand, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented as signed to the State Board of Education on Tuesday, March 11, 2003.

3/5/03
Date

C.B. Ingle
Signature